

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masatomo MATSUBARA et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: November 26, 2003

For: USER-FRIENDLY IMAGE FORMING  
APPARATUS...

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **3257720333000**.

Dated: November 26, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Form PTO-1449 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Docket Number: 325772033300		Application Number: New Application	
		Applicants			
		<i>Masatomo MATSUBARA et al.</i>			
		Filing Date: November 26, 2003		Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned	
Mailing Date: November 26, 2003					

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	1.	10/12/2001	2001-282476	Japan			Abstract
	2.	10/18/2002	2002-305649	Japan			Abstract
	3.	06/28/2002	2002-183832	Japan			Abstract

**OTHER DOCUMENTS***(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.